

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
ANDERSON/GREENWOOD DIVISION

|                            |   |                                     |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Valerie Jean Nadon,        | ) | Civil Action No.: 8:14-cv-03420-RBH |
|                            | ) |                                     |
| Plaintiff,                 | ) |                                     |
|                            | ) |                                     |
| v.                         | ) | <b>ORDER</b>                        |
|                            | ) |                                     |
| Carolyn W. Colvin, Acting  | ) |                                     |
| Commissioner of the Social | ) |                                     |
| Security Administration,   | ) |                                     |
|                            | ) |                                     |
| Defendant.                 | ) |                                     |
| _____                      | ) |                                     |

On January 21, 2016, Plaintiff filed a motion for attorney's fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act,<sup>1</sup> asserting the position taken by Defendant in this action was not substantially justified and requesting attorney's fees in the amount of \$7,951.27. *See* ECF No. 24. On January 28, 2016, the parties filed a joint stipulation wherein they agreed to an award of attorney's fees in the amount of \$7,000.00. *See* ECF No. 25. The joint stipulation provides that the fees awarded should be paid to the claimant, not her attorney, and would be subject to the Treasury Offset Program<sup>2</sup> if the claimant owes an outstanding debt to the federal government. *See id.*

After careful consideration, the Court **ORDERS** Defendant to pay attorney's fees in the amount of \$7,000.00, subject to the Treasury Offset Program provision in the parties' joint stipulation. Pursuant to *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010), the payment shall be made payable to the claimant and mailed to her attorney, with a copy sent to the claimant.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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<sup>1</sup> 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d).

<sup>2</sup> 31 U.S.C. § 3716.

January 28, 2016  
Florence, South Carolina

s/ R. Bryan Harwell  
R. Bryan Harwell  
United States District Judge